

SPRINGWATER ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES SCHOOL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

August 11th, 2021

Join Zoom Meeting

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Members Present: Tina Marquez, Tory Blackwell, Nathalie Doherty, Cinda Scott, Holly Johnston, Chelsea Hamilton, Lissa Hettervig

Members Absent: Genevieve Sheesley, Mali Geister

Staff Present: Greg Mylet, Kelsea Wagner

Community Present: Liz McCabe, Debie Berreth, Amy Ha, Eric Bruckbauer, Geoff Pena, Jame Melhaus, Kim Liday, 1-503-504-0390, Hannah, Shelley, Theo, Tara Walp, Jared Green, Christine Smith

Call to Order: 6:10pm

Welcome, public comment housekeeping, must keep all public comments to 2 minutes.

Motion to approve meeting minutes from July 7th, 2021 with minor corrections from Nathalie Doherty. – Approved by all

Exit Interview- update:

The team is working with Mary Rowe to develop protocol to present at the September regular board meeting.

Stay Interviews-

Mary Rowe recommended some suggested questions to go out to staff via email in September. In the future the Exit and Stay interviews can be done at the same time to allow the school to continue to make improvements.

Questions from the board-

Chelsea- Is this an annual or bi-annual interview?

Holly- Good question, it would depend on the number of staff leaving and staying, we will ask Mary Rowe what her recommendation is and report back to you.

Motion to accept the Stay Interview questions put forth by Mary Rowe. – Approved by all

Motion to accept the HR Administration Support Proposal. – Approved by all

Questions from the board-

Nathalie- Is Mary Rowe a solo consultant or does she have staff?

Holly- She is a solo consultant. We interviewed several HR Consultants and we voted to hire Mary a few meetings ago.

Greg- We should invite Mary to visit the school and or talk to us about our specific needs and make sure she understands the difference between staff, specialized staff, etc.

Holly- Mary Rowe's HR support will be administration only as it would be a conflict of interest for her to support teachers, board, and administration. She will however make referrals available to staff.

Tory- We should make sure Mary gets a copy of the staff handbook and the board policies. We also need to include a line item in the budget for Mary's services.

Greg- We should limit the money for that line item also.

Principal's Report:

Introducing Shelley Radcliffe! Greg proposes to hire Shelley as our Middle School Math teacher. Greg has worked with Shelley at Lake Oswego Middle School Jr. High. Shelley took some time off to raise her children and is getting back into teaching. Shelley introduces herself and is excited to be part of the Springwater community.

Summer Camps Updates-

The first week there were 120 students! The 2nd week 140 students, however, it had to be cut short 2 days due to heat and teacher student ratio, took a field trip to the Zoo on Wednesday. It was a huge success!

ESSER 3 Funds and return to in person learning-

20% of these funds must be used to address the learning loss. The rest can be used in other ways. *Greg shares a slide of other ways.

Oregon Resiliency Framework-

Must be completed by August 27th with community input, there are 3 sections.

Community Input- 93 of 130 families completed the survey. 71 people reported being excited about returning, 22 people reported having a desire to return, 22 people reported feeling hesitant about returning, 4 people reported not willing to return at all. The survey closed out Sunday 8/8/21.

Summer Camp was a good way to try out social distancing, masks, lunch, playground usage, cohorts etc. At camp there were 22/24 students per cohort. Creating as few cohorts as possible is our goal. *Greg shares a slide regarding masking and quarantining with the 3 ft. model.

Holly- How will we supervise mask compliance?

Greg- Gently, with reminders of importance of keeping everyone safe. Making an area for mask breaks, arranging the classrooms to allow 3 feet distancing.

Nathalie- To reiterate, the slide, if masks are off and there is a positive test then must quarantine. If masks are on and maintaining 3 feet and a positive test then they don't need to quarantine.

Greg- Yes

Lissa- We asked families how they are feeling about returning to in person learning; have we asked the teachers? I really want to hear how they are feeling about it all.

Greg- We did have our leadership meeting and talked about it. However, we need to do it again with all staff.

Important Safety Strategies- We will be offering testing, screening, and working with the school nurse to create an isolation area. We will be offering the rapid test at school.

Holly- What is the handwashing protocol? And cleaning protocol?

Greg- The cleaning service comes in 2xs per week to clean and sanitize. Handwashing will be strongly encouraged before and after eating, before and after outside, before and after using communal items, also the use of hand sanitizer. The cleaning service have misters to sanitize high touch items, door knobs, handles, toilets etc.

Nathalie- Are we doing desks or tables this year?

Greg- We are back to tables.

Nathalie- Is there enough space per classrooms?

Tory- The older kids have expressed concerns wanting larger space to use during recess. Kicking the ball into the “kinder” zone has been stressful for some children.

Greg- They can go get the ball if it goes into another zone. Some kids really follow the rules/guidance to a T. I will let them know it is ok to move from one zone to the next briefly to retrieve the ball.

Mental Health Supports-

We will continue to build classroom lessons and social and emotional learning curriculum. We are looking to partner with community providers to help students and families with mental health needs. We will continue to create opportunities for students and staff to connect with each other. For the first week of our Staff Professional Development, we are going to Tree to Tree to build on trust issues and build relationships.

Tory- Does that mean we can use the extra ESSER 3 funds to help support these activities or community events?

Greg- Yes

Accelerating Learning-

Identify students with unfinished learning and working with students with IEP’s to determine best strategies.

We will be offering after school enrichments, academics and summer camp next year. We must use 1% of funds for extracurricular activities, which is why we will be offering drama for free after school and summer camp free next summer.

Tory- I know an art studio in Oregon City that would be excited to partner with us. Gavin has taken and taught several classes there and a large group of Springwater kids did a summer camp there. It is located in downtown Oregon City it is called Soul Flags; I will pass on information to you Greg.

What about the families who are not ready to return to in-person learning?

We are committed to serving all families. We are limited by two factors staffing and technology.

OCSD is looking into to Stride Learning.

They provide content and teacher, learning specialist and technical support. About \$2,000. Per student for the school year. It may be closer to \$3,000.

Holly- At the OCSDA meeting some of us attended they weren't clear about our charter requirements.

Cinda- Do we know when we will know?

Holly- As soon as we know something we will let all board members know.

Greg- We will need to have a Special Session before school begins.

Tory- We also don't know how many students would need these services. We would need an emergency meeting to amend our policies regarding returning to Springwater.

Greg- Families do not need to share with us the reasons for not returning. We will need to collect the numbers per grade level.

Cinda- Would this open up spaces to others who want to go to Springwater? If people chose to leave?

Lissa- Depends upon what the Covid numbers do. If they go down then people may change their minds.

Greg- We should strive to keep all students in school all of the time.

Holly- Can we consider other options? VS an online only option? Or something besides Strive Learning?

Greg- Strive Learning has been vetted by others and we don't have the time to research all the options. If we chose Strive Learning it would be a full year commitment. Maybe a midyear review.

Nathalie- How much money?

Greg- ESSER 3 \$150,000.

Holly- I would like to hear staff input on this program and how it measures up.

Tory- It would be helpful from Tony's side on how to keep those kids socially and emotionally engaged.

Greg- We will spend more time asking questions to find out about what other schools are doing and why they chose the program that they did.

Holly- No matter what program we choose what other items can we add on/provide?

Tory- When you reach out to those families who may not choose to be in the classroom can we invite them to join for outside activities?

Greg- Yes

Chelsea- What if we think outside of the box and do something totally no online? What if we hired another teacher vs an online program like a “liaison” staff?

Greg- I hesitate due to difficulty finding teachers. Providing packets to families was helpful last year.

Tina- If we were to hire a teacher and we are having difficulty can we look into a student teacher? Perhaps one who needs teaching hours to receive their degree?

Chelsea- I know the amount of work that goes into that may be too much.

Holly- How do we re-integrate those kids back into the community or classroom when they are ready to return to in-person learning?

Tory- If we had a really experienced IA that was committed to a full-time position that would be great, so we don't have to let them go after just a few months.

Greg- There are just too many complications to best serve those families well and the amount of energy that would take is huge.

Holly- How will we deliver lessons if a classroom is quarantined?

Greg- I think we need to use tools that we already have and know what works for example google classrooms.

Tory- Volunteers could drop off and pick up materials to families.

Holly- Can we put a camera in the classroom while the teacher delivers the lessons?

Greg- This is difficult for teachers, either they teach to the computer or to the students in the classroom. Either way it is not the best delivered lesson for one or both parties.

Greg- We should table this for now and check in with the teachers to see what works best for them. One of the things the families and teachers did appreciate was getting out the lessons to families in advance and posted for all to see.

Nathalie- When will we do this Emergency Meeting?

Greg- It will have to be very soon.

Since we were un able to hire for an Instructional Coordinator position. I would like to suggest we consider using some of our ESSER 3 funds to work with a literacy consultant to provide both classroom support and perhaps direct intervention with students.

Nathalie- Can you give us an example of what a literacy consultant does?

Greg- Gives an example- We did have someone apply who does interventions specific training to help teachers and students.

Holly- This is a good idea however; I would like to see a specific proposal so we don't run into a large amount of money.

Nathalie- So are you pulling out IC funds or pulling from ESSER 3 funds?

Greg- I put a hold on IC search and would like to revisit it again in the fall.

Tory- Sounds like you have some leads.

Greg- Yes, PDX read, Oregon Writing funds, specific to reading.

Holly- I want to make sure we seek a proposal for all students who need extra. Those due to learning loss and those who need extensions to their learning.

Tory- Could we use enrichments to pull from ESSER Funds?

Greg- We may need to vote on that.

Motion to allow Greg to get bids from consultants to provide reading support for students that need support in that area and to place a temporary hold on the IC positions hiring. – Approved by all

Possible capital improvement-

Trough sink in the hallway in the main building. We already have the sink the installment will be about \$5,200.00. We need to install the drain and hot water. We will need permits.

Paul Hettervig- Did the contractor provide the permits in the proposal? And did they include a tempering valve?

Greg- Yes, the permit is included in the proposal. I will ask about the tempering valve.

Motion to allow Greg to move forward with the four faucets sink and have it professionally installed an ensure a tempering valve for \$5,000. In place of the existing sink in the main building hallway. - Approved by all

Afterschool/ Enrichments-

We will be offering these next year.

Public Comment:

Hannah/Eric Bruckbower- We have two kids an incoming Kindergartner and a 3rd grader. We are eager to return to in-person. However, our daughter has upper respiratory and we live with an immune compromised family member. We are not comfortable having our children return until both kids can be vaccinated. Our top priority is not losing our spot at Springwater. We would consider some outside activities perhaps FFS.

Stand at Ease 5 min.: Return to meeting at 8:20pm

Ventilation System Update:

One of the requirements for this year to make sure our air quality is high. We can use ESSER 3 funds to help pay for this. Greg sent a link to the board of the approved units to review.

Holly- Do we have the air scrubbers we approved last year?

Greg- Yes

Holly- Are they on the approved list?

Greg- No

Paul Hettervig- Do you have plans to cycle air threw the windows? Did you increase filtration to include MER 13 filters? If you keep the windows open all year the energy cost will go up. And the air cleaners won't be as effective with the windows open.

Cinda- Can we close the windows during the winter months and still have adequate protection?

Are they saying this is adequate?

Greg- Both windows open and filters. \$2,500.00 is a good price but they are 20 weeks out.

Nathalie- How many classrooms do we need?

Greg- 9

Paul- Fans in the windows will help. Can we get 2 filters and there will be maintenance costs, we need to filter a 900sq ft. room. We will need to continually bring in fresh air to keep the concentration of virus down to a minim.

Tory- I worry about the energy costs.

Paul- Is there a better allocation of these resources?

Greg- These are hospital grade units.

Holly- Where are we at with the spending of ESSER 3 funds?

Greg- \$60,000.

Cinda- Maybe we purchase 4 now and get on the list to buy more later.

Tory- Can we order some for the main building that has little ventilation? It also houses our youngest students.

Nathalie- How can we test the effectiveness?

Greg- They have already been tested.

Cinda- Maybe we test the efficacy by the lack of Covid cases? They will also work for other outbreaks, colds, allergies, measles, filter out smoke from wildfires.

Holly- What is the noise decibel levels?

Greg- 30-58 decibels

Cinda- 3 units in older buildings, test, then decide how many more to order in the future.

Holly- No matter what they will improve air quality. Let's think long term plan.

Motion to move forward with Greg's recommendation to invest in approved HEPA filter units 9 units or the equivalent of 9 units with filters to go with it from the approved list with in the budget of \$25,000. Before school begins. – Approved by all

Greg will look at current units already purchased and see if they are on the approved list.

Motion to table agenda items until Special Session:

Draft of Policy of unspent Professional Development money

ODE Charter School template

Board Member Position Announcement

Preschool Rental Agreement

Approved by all

Greg's proposal to hire .5 FTE Learning Specialist Kristen Mann she is experienced with writing IEP's

Motion to support Greg in hiring Kristan Mann .5 FTE Specialist- Approved by all

Motion to hire Shelley Radcliffe middle school math specialist. - Approved by all

Covered area estimates from Hayes Brothers, LLC

The board was given the estimate in the board packet. The prices have risen since our last estimate however, we need to get started on this project as soon as possible.

Motion to move forward with Hayes Brothers pending approval with Dana Geister. If we haven't heard back from Dana within a week the board gives Greg permission to move forward. - Approved by all

Treasures Bank Statement: As of July 31st, 2021

Savings account- \$711,908.18

Checking account- \$292,799.04

Tory mentions there was an error in the bank statement in the area of supplies.

Risk Management:

Holly mentions in the OSBA meeting some of us attended Jim Green (the executive director of Oregon School Board Association) recommended we follow all of the protocols put forth. If we don't, we could lose our PACE insurance, non-compliance fines from OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration), as well as daily fines from OHA (Oregon Health Authority) up to \$500. Per day also licensed educators could lose their educator licenses and or receive a reprimand. OHA and ODE will post a revisal of the plans monthly.

Adjourn: 9:36pm

